

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated May 21, 2007. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 8-13 are currently pending in the Application.

In the Office Action, claim 4 is objected to for an informality. In response, claim 4 is amended to address the informality noted by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 4 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 8-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Perkas (High-Strength Maraging Steels) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,244,375 to Laurence ("Laurence"). These rejections are respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4 and 8-13 are allowable over Perkas in view of Laurence for at least the following reasons.

Perkas discloses high-strength maraging steel. It is undisputed that Perkas fails to disclose or suggest "maraging stainless steel would be plasma-nitrided at a temperature below 500 °C." (See, Final Office Action, bottom of page 2 and continuing

onto page 3.) Perkas also fails to disclose or suggest forming the maraging stainless steel into a shaver part.

Laurence is cited to cure this deficiency in Perkas, however, it is respectfully submitted that reliance on Laurence is misplaced. Laurence discloses a ferrous-based press plate subjected to plasma-nitriding at an elevated temperature being substantially below 1000 ° F., which corresponds to 538°C. Table A of Laurence discloses a maximum temperature of 400-450°C. Further, Laurence also fails to disclose or suggest forming maraging stainless steel into a shaver part.

It is respectfully submitted that the method of claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Perkas in view of Laurence. For example, Perkas in view of Laurence does not disclose or suggest, a method that amongst other patentable elements, comprises "forming stainless maraging steel into the shaver part; and plasma-nitriding of the shaver part at a temperature between 300°C and 380°C" as recited in claim 1.

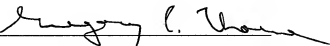
Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is patentable over Perkas in view of Laurence, and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2-4 and 8-13 depend from claim and accordingly are allowable for at least

this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration and allowance of each of dependent claims 2-4 and 8-13 is respectfully requested.

In addition, applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Gregory L. Thorne, Reg. 39,398
Attorney for Applicant(s)
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THORNE & HALAJIAN, LLP
Applied Technology Center
111 West Main Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706
Tel: (631) 665-5139
Fax: (631) 665-5101